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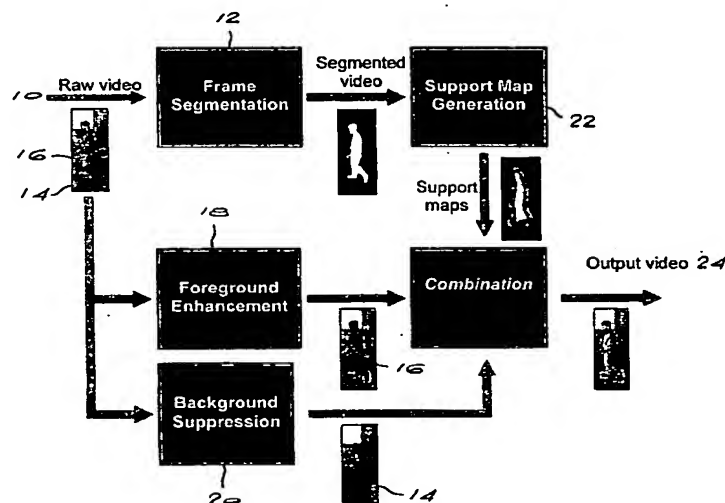
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(54) Title: **ENHANCED VIDEO BASED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM**



(57) Abstract: The invention provides an enhanced video based surveillance system for use in the surveillance of a zone. The system firstly comprises the step of generating and storing an initial background image (14) of the zone wherein such image is composed of constant background features. Secondly the stored background image is used to partition incoming video images of the zone into segments visually representative of foreground features (16) and background features respectively. Finally foreground features are digitally enhanced (18) relative to the background features in the images, thereby to attract visual attention to such foreground features. The invention further extends to a video motion detection system incorporating the use of stereo calibrated digital cameras.

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